# MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Requestor Name** 

NUEVA VIDA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Respondent Name

ACADIA INSURANCE CO

**MFDR Tracking Number** 

M4-12-2212-01

**Carrier's Austin Representative** 

Box Number 19

**MFDR Date Received** 

February 27, 2012

### REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "Please review and reprocess the attached claim for payment."

Amount in Dispute: \$28.00

# RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "Medical dispute resolution must be sought within on year of the date of service(s) in question. If medical dispute resolution is not sought within one year, the request for medical dispute resolution is not timely, and must be dismissed. In the present, case, the date of service in question is February 24, 2011, and per the date stamp on the DWC-60, the request for medical dispute resolution was not filed until February 27, 2012. Thus, the request for medical dispute resolution was not timely, and should be dismissed."

Response Submitted by: Flahive, Ogden & Latson

# SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

| Dates of Service  | Disputed Services | Amount In Dispute | Amount Due |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| February 24, 2011 | 99361             | \$28.00           | \$0.00     |

# FINDINGS AND DECISION

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and all applicable, adopted rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

#### **Background**

- 1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for health care providers to pursue a medical fee dispute.
- 2. The services in dispute were reduced/denied by the respondent with the following reason codes:
  - 216 Based on the findings of a review organization.

#### Issue

Did the requestor waive the right to medical fee dispute resolution?

# **Findings**

28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307(c)(1) states: "Timeliness. A requestor shall timely file with the Division's MDR Section or waive the right to MDR. The Division shall deem a request to be filed on the date the MDR Section receives the request. (A) A request for medical fee dispute resolution that does not involve issues identified in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph shall be filed no later than one year after the date(s) of service in dispute."

The date of the service in dispute is February 24, 2011. The request for medical dispute resolution was received in the Medical Dispute Resolution (MDR) section on February 27, 2012. This date is later than one year after the date of service in dispute. Review of the submitted documentation finds that the disputed service does not involve issues identified in §133.307, subparagraph (B). The Division concludes that the requestor has failed to timely file this dispute with the Division's MDR Section; consequently, the requestor has waived the right to medical fee dispute resolution.

# Conclusion

The Division finds that the requestor has waived the right to medical fee dispute resolution for the services in dispute. For that reason, the merits of the issues raised by both parties to this dispute have not been addressed.

| <u>Authorized Signature</u> |  |               |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------|
|                             |  |               |
|                             |  | June 24, 2014 |
| Signature                   | Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer | Date          |

### YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

Either party to this medical fee dispute may appeal this decision by requesting a contested case hearing. A completed **Request for a Medical Contested Case Hearing** (form **DWC045A**) must be received by the DWC Chief Clerk of Proceedings within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. A request for hearing should be sent to: Chief Clerk of Proceedings, Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers Compensation, P.O. Box 17787, Austin, Texas, 78744. The party seeking review of the MDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request for a hearing to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision** together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §148.3(c), including a **certificate of service demonstrating that the request has been sent to the other party**.

Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.